

House Resolution No. 652

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives feel it is altogether fitting and proper to pause from time to time to recognize individuals and organizations that have contributed to the welfare of this great state and its citizens or distinguished themselves through significant personal achievement; and

Whereas, the members now pause to recognize James Clark, of St. Louis, Missouri, who recently earned the dual distinction of being named the St. Louis Public Schools Role Models Program Role Model of the Year Award and the St. Louis City Board of Aldermen Leadership Award; and

Whereas, James Clark is the Vice President of community outreach for Better Family Life, Inc. (BFL), and in this capacity, he oversees BFL's magazine, Under the Arch, Neighborhood Alliance, Beyond the Walls, the neighborhood beautification project, and The John W. Fedrick Community Festival, in addition to recruitment and orientation for the MET Center, the region's premiere job training center; and

Whereas, James Clark coordinates one of the metropolitan area's largest community festivals, Family Week, BFL's week-long summer festival targeting families, and the Better Family Life Neighborhood Alliance, a cutting-edge program providing direct resources to residents of two neighborhoods with the goal of organizing for stability and livability; and

Whereas, James Clark has been a member of BFL since 1989, and before joining the staff in 1997, he served as an Administrative Assistant to the first African-American Mayor of the City of St. Louis, Freeman R. Bosley, Jr., and in this capacity, he developed and implemented initiatives that provided employment, educational, and recreational opportunities for inner-city youth that had a direct impact on youth crime, gang violence, and neighborhood stabilization; and

Whereas, for twelve years, James Clark has been a weekly volunteer at the St. Louis City Juvenile Detention Center in the Mentoring Program, and he was recently featured on a Channel 11 special report on individuals making the transition from a life of crime to job training and gainful employment:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, join to congratulate James Clark on this auspicious occasion; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for James Clark.

Offered by _____
Representative Jamilah Nasheed
District No. 60

I, Rod Jetton, Speaker of the House of Representatives,
Ninety-fourth General Assembly, Second Regular Session,
do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House
Resolution No. 652, adopted February 14, 2008.

Rod Jetton, Speaker